

THE

SPRING 2011

CANTON

CONNECTION™

SMART SAFETY FIRST

*Learn about Canton's new
fire station and how it will
help keep the community safe*

Page 15

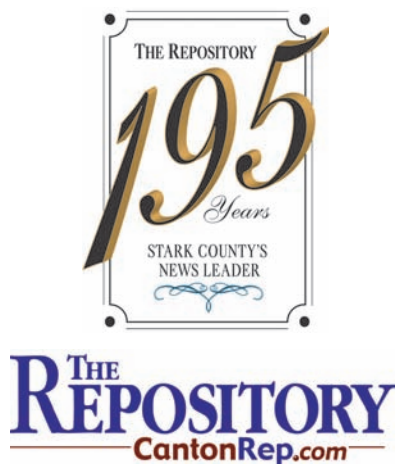
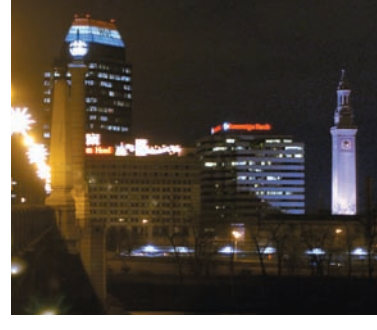


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2010 Canton City Income Taxes are due April 18, 2011

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In this issue

Spring 2011

THE
CANTON
CONNECTION™

COVER PHOTO BY MOTTER & MEADOW ARCHITECTS

COVER STORY



SMART SAFETY FIRST

15

The Canton Police and Fire Departments are finding new, smarter ways to keep our residents safe. Safety Director Thomas Ream describes how Intelligence Led Policing has led to a third year of declining crime, a new fire station will give our firefighters better training and a merged 800 MHz radio system has allowed our efforts to be regionalized.

DEVELOPMENT NEWS

3



EVERYONE'S BUSINESS

Local businesses and community residents continue to help revitalize our city. The Department of Development helps this effort in a variety of ways. Learn how the department works to create jobs, bring in new companies and keep our neighborhoods strong and beautiful.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

6



SPRING EVENTS

It's springtime, and that means it's time to come downtown for music, food and fun! Get all the details you need to make the most of the warm weather at great events right in the heart of downtown Canton.

GO GREEN

9



WHY DO YOU RECYCLE?

Canton residents are finding more and more reasons to join the curbside recycling program every day. Whatever your reason for recycling, know that your efforts are paying off and making a difference, both in our community and for our planet.

BEHIND THE SCENES

10



CITY UPDATES

Learn more about what's happening in city government, including how technology has allowed our water and sewer departments to keep the pipes flowing and how you can celebrate Earth Day by cutting the ribbon on Canton's first ever nature preserve.

ALSO INSIDE

18 Community Calendar

21 City Phone Directory / Contact your Council Member

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Letter from the Mayor

Dear Residents,



Before I took office, I pledged to the residents of our community that I would institute a zero tolerance policy and take back our streets from the gangs, drug dealers and criminals. I am pleased to report to you that we have continued to be successful in these efforts, experiencing an unprecedented third year of reduced crime in Canton.

The centerpiece of the zero tolerance policy has been to reject the outdated and ineffective policing methods of the past and adopt new, innovative techniques. This new Intelligence Led Policing has proven to be incredibly effective, resulting in almost one-third of all crime gone from our streets in just three years.

Our safety as a community doesn't begin or end with stopping crime. We also rely on our firefighters and EMS personnel to be there in any time of need or emergency. Like our police forces, the Fire Department has implemented new strategies to provide the best coverage possible as efficiently as we can.



I invite you to read on to learn more about the accomplishments of our safety forces, as well as the other wonderful things taking place in Canton, both inside and outside of City Hall.

As always, I welcome you to contact me via telephone, e-mail or in person whenever you want to share information, request city services or report a problem in your neighborhood. I am honored to serve as your Mayor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wm. J. Healy II". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

William J. Healy II
Mayor

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Businesses in site



BY ROBERT TORRES / Director of Economic Development

SINCE TAKING OFFICE IN 2008, JOB CREATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT HAVE BEEN MAJOR PRIORITIES

for Mayor Healy's administration. Guided by the understanding that business development and job creation are essential components to sustaining a progressive city, the administration is always ready to partner with businesses that want to locate or expand in our community.

With these goals in mind, Mayor Healy and the development staff make regular visits to local businesses. A minimum of two visits a week are scheduled with companies operating in or near city limits. The visits help the administration understand the unique challenges faced by manufacturers, distributors and other businesses in conducting their daily operations.

Overall, more than 250 businesses have been introduced to Canton's development team and their business friendly initiatives, including Koch Knight, Sheet Metal Crafters, Midwest Industrial Supply and Profile Plastics.

Incentives are made available through programs offered by the city's Department of Economic Development, the Canton Community Improvement Corporation and the Ohio Department of Development. Business opportunities are also created through relationships with the state and federal agencies charged with facilitating international commerce.

The administration has worked to help local companies tap into the international market in several ways. Under Mayor Healy's leadership, the Department of Economic Development was selected to host the 2009 annual meeting of the managing directors of the Ohio Department of Development's Global Division.

This meeting provided local businesses the chance to meet the managing directors of the Department of Development trade offices from eleven countries in five continents.

Through a partnership with representatives of the U.S. Department of Commerce International Trade Division, the Canton Community Improvement Corporation hosted an Export Seminar in 2010. Attendees of the seminar learned about export procedures, international commerce, financial strategies and market analysis services offered by the state and federal governments.

More than 50 businesses from across the state took advantage of this opportunity, including local companies like Bowdil, Inc., Everhard Products, and Midwest Industrial Supply who all directly benefited from this seminar.

If you are interested in scheduling a site visit or learning more about city business incentives, please call the Economic Development Department at 330-489-3258 or visit www.cantonohio.gov/development. ♦

Development partners offer incentives



BY ROBERT TORRES / Director of Economic Development

THE CITY'S DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS WITH THE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION,

the Stark Development Board, the Ohio Department of Development and the Chamber of Commerce to provide the following business incentives to new or existing Canton companies.

CCIC Revolving Loan Program

There are several criteria for the CCIC Revolving Loan Program, including certain levels of secured private investment and certain amounts of new jobs created. The CCIC requires that a business already have secured at least two of the following before receiving a CCIC loan: bank financing, equity investment by the company or participation by other funding agencies.

Job Creation Incentive Program

The Job Creation Incentive Program provides to a business an annual payment equal to a certain percentage of the income tax paid to the city for up to five years.

To qualify for this incentive, a business must create or relocate a minimum of 25 full time new jobs. The business must also be approved for a Job Creation Tax Credit from the state. Applicants receiving the Net Profit Tax Incentive are not eligible for the Job Creation Incentive Program.

Net Profit Tax Incentive

The Net Profit Tax Incentive Program offers eligible companies an annual payment of up to 50 percent of the amount of net profit tax paid by the business for up to five years.

To qualify, companies must be new or relocating to Canton and create or relocate a minimum of 10 new full time jobs. Applicants must apply for the incentive prior to signing a lease, constructing a new facility, annexing into the city or purchasing a new building. Applicants receiving a Job Creation Incentive are not eligible for the Net Profit Tax Incentive.

Enterprise Zone Program

The Enterprise Zone Program is an economic development tool created by the state to provide property tax exemptions to businesses making significant investments in Ohio. Property tax exemptions can be made up to 75 percent of the increased assessed value of the property for up to 10 years.

To qualify for this incentive, a business must make a significant investment and create or retain jobs in the community.

For more information, contact Robert Torres, Director of Economic Development, at (330) 489-3258. ♦

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPEMENT

Community Development is everyone's business



BY FONDA WILLIAMS / Director of Community Development and Planning

THE CITY OF CANTON'S DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IS DEDICATED TO IMPROVING THE QUALITY

of life of all Canton residents. Through housing rehabilitation programs, neighborhood planning and organized volunteer efforts, CD is poised to work with residents to change the faces of neighborhoods throughout the city. Block by block and neighborhood by neighborhood, we are determined to continue the revitalization of our community.

As the Neighborhood Leadership Council reminds us, you don't have to move to live in a better neighborhood. The Department of Community Development is a firm believer in this idea and is committed to doing whatever we can to make our neighborhoods safe, attractive places to live and raise a family. We can't do it alone though—we need the help of all residents to keep our city clean and beautiful.

Canton is blessed to be home to over 50 active neighborhood associations. Through the leadership of the Stark Community Foundation and funding through their Neighborhood Partnership Grant Program, these groups of dedicated residents are making a huge difference in every quadrant of the city. From organizing block parties and clean-ups to creating community gardens and crime watch groups, the neighborhood associations form the backbone of our city's rebirth.

In order to help facilitate this revitalization, CD has developed or redesigned several programs to strengthen and beautify our neighborhoods. Although some of these programs are limited to certain areas of the city or individuals that meet certain income requirements, overall we have programs that reach every corner of the community.

Mayor's Neighborhood Commission

Mayor Healy recently established the Mayor's Neighborhood Commission in order to enhance community confidence, improve citizen communication with city government, promote public understanding of Canton government operations, and improve neighborhood development by enlisting the help and expertise of stakeholders from various sectors of the community.

The new commission will consist of 17 members. Representing the city will be the Service Director, Community Development Director, Chief Building Official, Law Director, Chief of Police and two members of City Council. Joining the city officials will be 10 members from the public, including representatives from real estate, education, community service, churches, the Stark Community Foundation and five residents selected by the Neighborhood Leadership Council.

The Mayor's Neighborhood Commission is still in its infancy, but will be ramping up its efforts this spring. Check www.cantonohio.gov/mayor for updates, meeting details, and information on how you can get involved in your neighborhood.

Emergency Repair Program: The Department of Community Development can offer assistance to homeowners who need emergency repair work in their homes. The emergency situation must be immediately threatening to the health and safety of the residents or be needed to prevent structural damage to the home. Emergency repairs consist of situations like a roof open to the winter elements, gas leaks or contaminated drinking water.

Repair and Maintenance Program: CD can offer financial assistance to homeowners to make home repairs to correct problems that otherwise could negatively affect the health, safety and welfare of the residents. These kinds of repairs can include things like fixing a roof, exterior repairs or replacing water tanks.

Homeowner Rehabilitation: Homeowners whose house needs major repairs in order to fully comply with building codes can receive up to \$22,000 for whole-house rehabilitation. This program includes bigger repairs and work, including mechanical repairs for electrical or plumbing issues, fixing structural programs or replacing windows or siding.

Residential Sidewalk and Curb Replacement Program: If the sidewalk or curb in front of a house needs to be replaced, CD can reimburse homeowners 50 percent of the cost, provided the work is done through the city or a city-licensed contractor and has been approved by the city's Engineering Department.

Down Payment Assistance: In cooperation with Stark County Out of Poverty Partnership, CD offers assistance to renters who meet income limits to help cover a down payment and closing costs on the purchase of a home.

Demolitions: Thanks largely to increased funding through the federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program, the city has been able to direct record amounts of resources to tearing down dilapidated and blighted structures. Working with the Canton Building Department, CD has torn down more than 330 structures over the last several years. Eliminating these eyesores raises the value of surrounding property and removes potentially dangerous vacant buildings from our neighborhoods.

Land Disposition: Under certain circumstances, CD may be able to help homeowners acquire vacant lots adjacent to their property. If the land holds delinquent taxes greater in value than the appraised value of the lot, we can work with Stark County to transfer the lot to adjacent homeowners.

Keeping our neighborhoods great places to live and raise families benefits the entire community. By working together, we can ensure a strong and healthy city for years to come.

More information on these projects, including specific eligibility requirements and the application process, is available by calling the Department of Community Development at 330-489-3040 or by visiting their website, www.cantonohio.gov/development. ♦



PHOTO COURTESY OF LEE SPENCER PHOTOGRAPHY

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Boogie-woogie your way to Canton Blues Fest



BY JESSICA BENNETT

THE BREEZY EASY BLUES ARE BLOWING BACK INTO CANTON IN JUNE FOR THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION OF

the Canton Blues Fest. One of the Northeast's finest free blues experiences is back with a 2011 lineup sure to strike a chord with blues fans large and small!

This FREE outdoor summer festival brings the best of the blues home to downtown Canton, with music from noon to 10:30 p.m. on June 10 and 11.

The Canton Development Partnership's (a department of the Canton Regional Chamber) 10th annual festival will feature headliners Michael Burks at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, June 10 and Ronnie Baker Brooks at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 11.

Headliner Profile: Michael "Iron Man" Burks

Guitarist/vocalist/songwriter Michael "Iron Man" Burks stands tall as a major contemporary blues figure. With a nickname earned by his hours-long, intensely physical performances, fearsome guitar attack, tough, smoky vocals and the thousands of miles logged behind the wheel of his touring van, Burks is a modern blues hero.

Nobody in today's blues world successfully bridges searing electric guitar blues with unbridled rock and roll energy like Burks. For more information, visit www.MichaelBurks.com.

Headliner Profile: Ronnie Baker Brooks

Chicago guitar hero Ronnie Baker Brooks puts his own special twist on blues-rock--a twist that involves enlivening the genre with deep soul, modern hip-hop vocals and funk rhythms. He draws on the choppy, hip-shaking rhythms of funk, the emotional truth of soul and the forcefulness of rock to bring a distinctive dimension to his groundbreaking sound. For more information, visit www.RonnieBakerBrooks.com.

VIP passes available

As many as 15,000 people will enjoy two days of smooth grooves and 10 incredible entertainers at the Canton Blues Fest. The festival is free to all, but if you're looking for the best seat in the house, VIP passes are available at CantonBluesFest.com. You'll get the best views of the stage all day and enjoy free food and beer in the evening.

Visit CantonBluesFest.com for a full list of festival performers, including special guest stars Tinsley Ellis and The Rusty Wright Band.

The Canton Development Partnership's 2011 Canton Blues Fest is made possible by Cormony Development, Standard Plumbing and Heating Company and our sponsors (as of this printing) Schauer Group, Inc., Phil and Nancy Sonner, Quonset Hut, *The Repository*, The Karcher Group, Mix 94.1 and News-Talk 1480 WHBC AM and the Downtown Canton Special Improvement District. ♦



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Taste of Canton

This year, we're kicking off the downtown Canton festival series with another helping of Taste of Canton, held on Thursday, May 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. on the Kresge green space in downtown Canton.

This delightfully delicious spring festival, featuring local flavor and local fare, is brought to you by the Canton Development Partnership (a department of the Canton Regional Chamber) and *The Repository*.

More than 20 restaurants from Stark County will showcase their delicacies in the form of small sample plates, available for \$2 to \$6 per plate--the perfect price to sample an assortment of dishes! In addition to these delicious "tastes" of Canton, the event boasts fine wines and beers, along with live entertainment from area performers.

For more details about the event and ticket information, please visit TasteofCanton.com. ♦

Zing in the City

Come downtown on Wednesday, June 29 for some red, white and blue music under twilight's last gleaming at Zing in the City! This FREE spectacular summer symphony performance is sure to have you waving your flag.

Prepare to take an *amaZING Patriotic Adventure* with the Canton Symphony Orchestra under the direction of assistant conductor Matthew Brown. The star-spangled spectacular begins at 8 p.m. and a dazzling array of fireworks will kick off at 10 p.m.

Have little ones? Bring them down early for crafts and make-and-take activities or stroll along the "artists' row" while enjoying in-crowd entertainment from clowns, magicians and other performers.

The amaZING Patriotic Adventure is happening in the Kresge green space and surrounding area. Visit ZingintheCity.com for more details and the latest updates. ♦



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More great news from the Canton City Schools



BY MICHELE D. EVANS, PH.D. / Superintendent

MANY WONDERFUL THINGS HAPPEN IN OUR DISTRICT ON A DAILY BASIS. PARTNERSHIPS WITH BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS

throughout the community create unique experiences and opportunities for our students.

We have students working in collaboration with area businesses, studying emerging technologies such as robotics and fuel cells. Through a creative partnership with the Players Guild, the Arts Academy at Summit was able to present Annie Jr. free to the community on the main stage of the Players Guild Theater.

The Canton City School District continues to see graduation rates rise. McKinley High School now has a graduation rate of 92 percent and Timken High School has a graduation rate of 88 percent. As a whole, the district, which provides drop out recovery and discipline programs for Canton city students as well as students from Lake, Plain, North Canton and Jackson, has an 80 percent graduation rate.

We are moving in the right direction and are receiving attention from national organizations focused on improving graduation rates and decreasing dropout rates for these efforts. However, we will not rest until we see all of our students graduate from high school and successfully move onto college or a career.

In early December, the Board of Education and the district administration held a large community meeting to discuss priorities in the district. It is apparent that the budget will create a challenge for the district, and it is important to hear from students, parents, community members and business leaders in order to determine what is valued most in our district and what can be improved.

As a follow up to that meeting, the Board and district leaders are holding small group meetings across the community. We are looking for individuals to host small meetings of 10-15 people. A meeting can be held anywhere: a church, a community center, a library or even in a home.

These meetings can tap into an already existing group or organization or can be a collection of neighbors or friends who are willing to get together and talk to school officials about the schools and the district. If you are willing to host a meeting, please contact Robyn Matulich at 330-438-2754.

We look forward to working with the community to build on our success and continue to improve our district.

For more information on the Canton City School district go to www.ccsdistrict.org. ♦

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TRI-COUNTY WASTE DISTRICT

Canton residents make a difference

**BY DAVID HELD** / Executive Director

THE SUCCESS OF ANY PROGRAM CAN BE MEASURED BY THE COMMITMENT OF ITS PARTICIPANTS. BY THAT

standard, Canton's curbside recycling program has been an amazing success. The commitment of Canton residents to the program continues to grow as participation rates rise and more and more material is kept out of our landfills.

The curbside collection program continues to increase its yield of recyclables each year. Items such as newspapers, cereal boxes, cardboard, plastics #1 & #2, metal and aluminum food containers and glass beverage containers are being recycled, rather than being sent to the landfill. The increase can be credited to the dedication of Canton residents and to city of Canton leadership.

Recycling is very important as it helps your community reduce waste and allow materials to be reused and recycled into new items. Informed community members can play an important role in their recycling program. Through participation, sharing awareness and promoting involvement, individuals can make an enormous contribution to the success of their program and the positive impact it has on our environment.

Thank you, to all who choose to reduce, reuse and recycle. For those who are not yet participating, please contact the city and begin right away. Bins can be obtained on-line at www.recycle.cantonohio.gov by selecting "request a container" and submitting the necessary contact information, or by calling (330) 489-3000. ♦

Why do you recycle?

Mike Dewey

"Because it is good for the environment and uses less resources."

Diana Jueden

"To save the Earth for my grandkids."

Eugene P. Tyler

"I try to keep as much out of the landfill as possible."



ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Canton cuts ribbon on Nature Preserve

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT



BY DAN MOEGLIN / City Engineer

THIS SPRING, THE CITY WILL CELEBRATE EARTH DAY AND ARBOR DAY BY DEDICATING THE FAIRHOPE NATURE PRESERVE.

Join us at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 30, for the official opening of the new preserve, located on the city's northeast side.

This family event will include a dedication ceremony, several activities and refreshments. The celebration is free and open to the public.

You may be thinking, "What is the Fairhope Nature Preserve and how is it different from the rest of Canton's parks?" To answer this question, we really have to go back to the floods of 2003.

In 2003, Canton experienced widespread flooding throughout the city. In response to those events, the city initiated the design and construction of several trunk storm sewers, including the 30th Street NE trunk sewer that runs from Harmont Avenue to Millvale Avenue. This 66-inch diameter pipe drains roughly 250 acres of land and outlets to the Fairhope Stream.

The Fairhope Stream is a small tributary that flows into the east branch of the Nimishillen Creek. However, the stream is not large enough to handle the storm water flows from the new trunk sewer. To solve this problem, the trunk sewer design was modified so the storm water traveled into a two-part retention basin before flowing into the Fairhope Stream.

This design accomplished two things. First, the rate of discharge from the sewer to the stream is regulated, reducing the potential for flooding downstream. Second, the water is "cleaned" in the basin, as debris and litter settle at the bottom, causing the water that enters the stream to be of a better quality. Since the

completion of the basin last spring, it has done a tremendous job handling both water quantity and quality issues. The amount of cups, bottles and other litter that has been captured before water enters the Nimishillen is incredible.

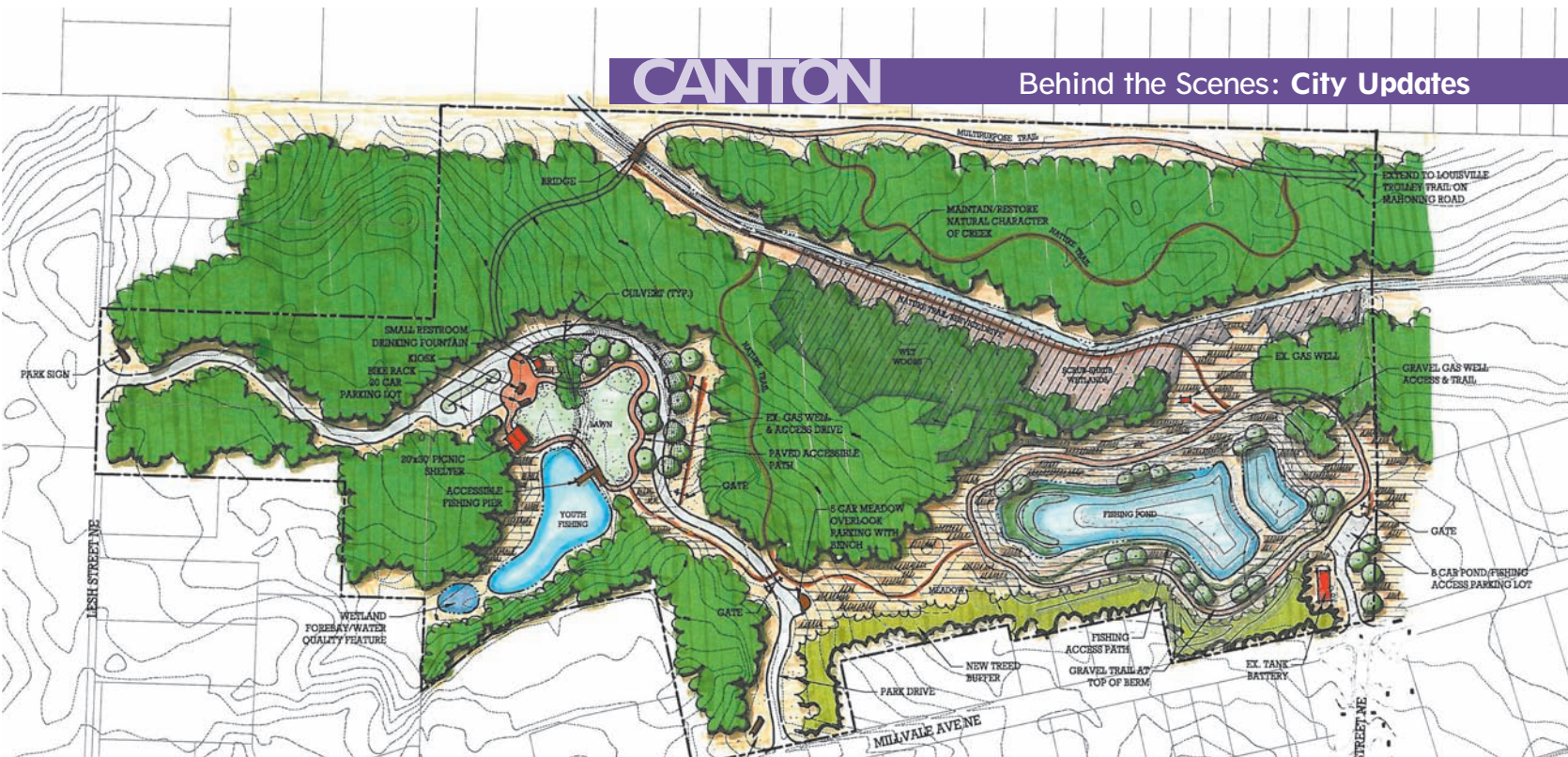
After the initial design of the two-part retention basin, the city faced another unexpected challenge: how to obtain the land to build the basin. This challenge turned into an opportunity, resulting in the new nature preserve.

Through the use of two Clean Ohio grants and generous donations from the former property owners Robert Kitson and Leonard Knell, 69 acres were secured by the city to become a nature preserve. This was far more than needed for just the basin.

However, given the grants available and the potential benefits, the city decided that preserving and protecting the entire acreage and all of its natural resources was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that should not be overlooked.

So, what makes this land a "preserve" rather than a park? The answer to this question lies in the terms and conditions of the Clean Ohio grants used to purchase the land. These particular funds can only be used to preserve and protect valuable natural resources such as wetlands, streams and woodlands, as are found on this piece of land.

Properties purchased with these funds can only be used for specific purposes, such as passive recreation (biking, fishing, hiking, picnicking), educational experiences and the preservation of natural resources. The property cannot be used for active



recreational facilities like baseball fields and golf courses. These specific and narrow allowable uses give the Fairhope Nature Preserve its designation as a nature preserve instead of a park.

This project has taken several years to come to fruition, and it is still not complete. However, there is already plenty for nature enthusiasts to enjoy. Trails are open for biking and hiking and there are plenty of great locations for picnics. The pond is stocked for fishing and wildlife like wild turkeys, red fox, deer and hawks can be seen throughout the area.

While the major earthwork and ponds are constructed and the trails and drives are roughed in, there is a lot more to do. Trails need to be dressed up, gates, lights and other security measures need to be installed, picnic shelters and restrooms need to be constructed and the landscaping needs time to mature. This work will continue for several years as grants and other funds become available.

To date, nearly \$3.4 million has been invested in this project, including the trunk sewer. Through grants and donations, \$2.6 million was provided from sources like the Ohio Public Works Commission, Clean Ohio, the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District and the Timken Company.

With a return on our investment of over 75 percent, Canton has done a remarkable job in leveraging our valuable limited financial resources to create a wonderful asset in the city.

Please join us on April 30 to celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day by dedicating the Fairhope Nature Preserve. Make some new friends, see some of the animals that call the preserve home or plant a tree for future generations to enjoy!

The Fairhope Nature Preserve is located in the northeast part of Canton with entrances off Lesh Street, Mahoning Road and Millvale Avenue. ♦

COMPLIANCE

Are your advertisements discriminatory?



BY COREY MINOR SMITH / Director of Compliance

YOU MAY KNOW THAT THE FAIR HOUSING ACT PROVIDES PROTECTION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION BASED ON RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL

origin, religion, sex, familial status, military status or handicap. Did you know that these protections apply to advertisements?

What is considered advertising

Advertising includes flyers, brochures, billboards, mailings, radio and TV ads, newspaper and magazine ads, signs, business cards and statements (i.e. word of mouth).

What is considered a discriminatory act

Under the federal fair housing law, the following words and phrases are considered offensive and prohibited from being used in advertisements for housing opportunities: exclusive, restricted, private, no children, singles preferred, male or female only, catholic church nearby, perfect for physically fit, Hispanic area, prefer bright or healthy person and for active or mature adults. Examples of acceptable phrases include, quiet residential area, parks nearby, gated and houses of worship nearby.

Information for Publishers

Publishers should be aware of potential liability, which may be imposed on those who engage in discriminatory real estate advertising.

Lawsuits challenging discriminatory advertising may be brought either by fair housing organizations or by readers of discriminatory advertising who are deterred by or suffer emotional injury from the advertisement. In such a suit, if a court finds that a discriminatory practice has occurred or is about to occur, it may award compensatory damages, punitive damages, a declaratory judgment and/or appropriate equitable relief.

It is important for publishers and advertisers to understand that the financial liability for violating the Fair Housing Act may be significant. In addition, a successful plaintiff in a discriminatory advertising suit is generally entitled to have the defendant pay the plaintiff's attorneys' fees. Where the defendant has acted in reckless disregard of the plaintiff's civil rights, punitive damage awards are also possible under federal law.

In addition to individual suits, the federal government has the authority to file suit when it finds a "pattern or practice" of discriminatory real estate advertising or when a case raises an issue of "general public importance." A "pattern or practice" occurs when the discriminatory conduct is more than an isolated or accidental departure from otherwise nondiscriminatory practices.

For more information on fair housing and the related laws, visit www.cantonohio.gov/fairhousing or call 330-438-4133. ♦

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WATER DEPARTMENT

Community to enjoy benefits of city water for decades to come



BY TYLER S. CONVERSE / Superintendent

AS WE LEAVE ANOTHER WINTER BEHIND, I WOULD LIKE TO FIRST AND FOREMOST THANK THE DEDICATED, HARD WORKING

men and women of the Canton Water Department who kept the water flowing through some of the worst weather conditions that Ohio could muster. Although few realize what they do and the sacrifices they make, we are all indebted to their service.

Founded in 1869, the Canton Water Department has been Stark County's leading drinking water supplier for 142 years. That being said, the casual observer may believe we have nothing more to learn or accomplish after all that time. However, nothing could be further from the truth.

Drawing on our own experiences and those of other leading water systems, CWD is working aggressively to improve our department every single day.

For example, best-business practices such as energy conservation measures, leak detection and systematic replacement of pipes have been implemented to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the system.

The department is also speaking with local business leaders and neighboring communities in an effort to identify and pursue growth opportunities. As a result, CWD will be positioned for long-term success and sustainability, so that the community may enjoy the benefits of this invaluable local resource for decades to come.

Once the weather breaks, hydrant and water main flushing will start in earnest. This effort is designed to maintain a high level of water quality in the system, while minimizing discolored water events. Supplying CWD's customers with an abundant supply of safe, high quality drinking water is and always will be the top priority for this department.

Check the city's website and announcements in the *The Repository* for when we will be flushing hydrants in your area. Residents may experience temporary low pressure during these times.

Keep in mind that the consumers are the eyes and ears of the department. If drinking water related problems occur, please contact us immediately. You can reach the Canton Water Department by calling 330-489-3315. ♦

COLLECTION SYSTEMS

Sanitary sewers of old – achievement by training and technology



BY JAMES DIMARZIO / Superintendent

A COMMUNITY'S SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IS NEITHER GLAMOROUS NOR COMPELLING FOR EVERY DAY DISCUSSION. HOWEVER,

for those of us that maintain and repair these underground systems, they are the backbone of the city's infrastructure system.

Sewers carry residential, commercial and industrial waste to the city's wastewater treatment facility for proper handling and treatment. Without this coordinated network of piping, the public's waterways would be subject to undue pollutants.

Built long ago but still serving us today, the city's sanitary sewers are cleaned, inspected and repaired with technology and equipment that has changed significantly over the last century.

Most of the city's sewers were constructed when horse and buggies were the machinery of choice. As time elapsed, cranes and shovels powered their way through the construction industry. All the while, our city took advantage of a pool of skilled laborers to craft

these sewers to the perfect engineering standards that still serve our community today.

Over the years, the city has had to clean these lines from time to time. City workers in the past used ancient tools of the trade to scoop and remove the waste and other debris that would occasionally clog the public sewers. For most blockages, the practice of clearing a plugged line required a brave worker to enter a manhole and physically remove a blockage by hand or tool.

Today, city crews are composed of highly trained equipment operators. Crews use some of the most advanced sewer cleaners available. These high velocity cleaners are capable of producing nozzle pressures that exceed 2,000 psi, which can move large amounts of debris, roots and gravel. Once these lines are cleaned, the debris is vacuumed out and hauled away for proper disposal.

For more information contact the Collections Systems Department by calling 330-489-3031. ♦

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE COLLECTION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT



BUILDING DEPARTMENT

IPMC targets eyesores

BY ANGELA CAVANAUGH / Chief Building Official

A NEW PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE WAS ADOPTED BY CANTON CITY COUNCIL EARLY THIS YEAR. THE PURPOSE OF THIS NEW CODE, THE

International Property Maintenance Code, is to promote the health, safety, convenience, general interest and welfare of the citizens of Canton while allowing the building department to operate more effectively and efficiently.

In addition, the code aims to protect neighborhoods against blight and deteriorating influences by establishing and strictly enforcing minimum standards for the appearance and maintenance of both rental and homeowner occupied structures.

Under the new ordinance, rental properties must be registered on a yearly basis, instead of every five years as previously required. The previous practice of mandatory inspections for all rental properties has also been changed.

Based on the new code, interior inspections will be triggered by any of the following: a new registration of a non-owner occupied residence, the assessment of a fine for an exterior code violation, a written complaint on a property through the Building Department or Fair Housing Board or the assessment of a fine by the city Health Department.

Follow-up inspections will be conducted to ensure that all necessary repairs are completed in a timely fashion, and stiff penalties will be assessed on those that fail to comply.

When registering properties, owners must provide a current e-mail address, telephone number and mailing address. This will enable us to provide owners with any information concerning their properties or updates to the ordinance quickly and effectively.

Anyone with additional questions about the new property maintenance code should contact the Building Department at 330-430-7800. ♦

Help Make Canton Beautiful

Canton's Adopt-a-Site Program is a citywide litter control and maintenance program whereby volunteer organizations may contribute to a cleaner environment and a more attractive community by adopting specific sites in our community.

We currently have 25 lots in need of parental attention. This program provides an excellent opportunity for a group, organization or business to tastefully advertise their interests while at the same time assisting the city stretch its limited resources.

If you are interested in adopting a site, please call the Street Department at (330) 489-3030.



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PHOTO BY ADAM HERMAN

Getting smart about safety



BY THOMAS REAM / Safety Director

KEEPING RESIDENTS SAFE IS THE TOP PRIORITY OF ANY CITY GOVERNMENT. WHETHER IT'S PREVENTING CRIME,

arresting dangerous offenders, fighting fires or offering emergency rescue services, the men and women of the Canton safety forces have dedicated their lives to making sure our community is safe. These efforts have paid off and greatly contributed to the overall revitalization of the city.

In 2010, Canton experienced an unprecedented third year in a row of drastically reduced crime. In fact, over this three year period, incidents of major crime have dropped from a peak of almost 10,000 incidents in 2007 to a fifteen-year low of just over 6,500 in 2010, a drop of 31%. These numbers include robbery, burglary, assault, larceny, motor vehicle theft, rape and homicide—the worst offenses in our community. The elimination of almost one-third of these crimes represents a monumental positive shift in the overall safety of our city.

The success of our police department has many contributing factors. The heart of these is a major change in the way the department operates based on the utilization of a new model of **Intelligence Led Policing**.

For years, the city used a hybrid of traditional and community based policing, which was centered on police presence and community relationships. This strategy was man-power intensive, expensive and, most importantly, ineffective. Residents

saw crime continue to rise year after year. A change was needed, and in 2008, the police department embraced Intelligence Led Policing.

The Intelligence Led Policing strategy uses crime, arrest and service call data to identify and prioritize where resources should be directed. It takes a more proactive approach, building on the recognition that police officers were spending too much time responding to crimes that had already occurred and not enough time working to prevent them.

Intelligence Led Policing has several components, and the police department has instituted a number of programs based on each.

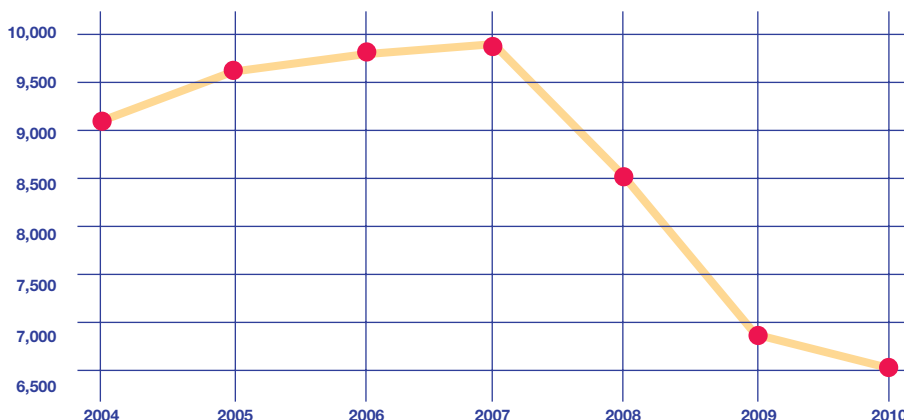
TARGETING KNOWN OFFENDERS

It is well known among law enforcement agencies that a small number of people commit a large percent of crime. Therefore, taking known offenders off the street is one of the most effective ways to prevent future incidents. Targeted crack downs like last summer's Operation Safe Streets can have a major impact in this area. For example, the two-day sting involved in that operation resulted in over 70 arrests, including 32 arrests on outstanding warrants.

Citizen participation also plays a key role in helping the police find and arrest these criminals. Residents are truly the eyes and ears of the department, and communication

with community members is an important tool. With that in mind, the police department launched Canton's Most Wanted to help track down the city's worst offenders. With fugitives' pictures displayed online and on television, these criminals no longer had the freedom to move undetected throughout the city. In fact, the first of the Most Wanted criminals to be apprehended was caught less than 24 hours after the program's launch, based on a citizen tip. Since then, 21 of the most dangerous criminals have been located and arrested.

CRIME STATISTICS (BY YEAR)



MANAGING HOT SPOTS OF ACTIVITY

Analysis of call and arrest data can clearly reveal problem areas in the city. Under the Intelligence Led Policing model, these areas are identified and senior officers are sent out to talk to residents and discover root causes of the problems. This direct contact allows the police to better understand the situation and offers a chance for the department to bring in other agencies that may be able to help. For example, if the problem is centered around a vacant house, the police can contact the Canton Building Department to ensure the structure is boarded up or torn down.

Once hot spots are identified and root problems are revealed, the police department can tailor their actions into specific, targeted sting operations. This targeted enforcement serves as the backbone of Intelligence Led Policing and has proven to be incredibly successful in Canton. This method not only gets offenders off the street, but also sends an important message that criminal activity will not be tolerated, even in areas in which they were previously allowed to flourish.

While arresting dangerous criminals is a top priority for the police, officers know that minor violations can add up to become major problems for the community. Intelligence Led Policing therefore extends targeted enforcement to smaller offenses like speeding, littering or playing loud music.

UTILIZING PARTNERSHIPS FOR PREVENTION

If we really want to have an impact on the safety of our community, we need to reach out to those at highest risk for falling into a life of crime. These at-risk individuals need to know the consequences of choosing this lifestyle and that there are other options available to them. This idea forms the basis of our gang prevention program, the Community Initiative to Reduce Violence.

The CIRV program targets known or suspected gang members with two messages. First, that any violent act carried

out by a gang member will result in swift and harsh punishment not only for that individual, but also for all known members of that gang. Second, that there are other options available, even for those that have made mistakes in the past. The CIRV program works with other social service agencies to offer a wide range of opportunities for ex-offenders, including drug treatment, education and job placement.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

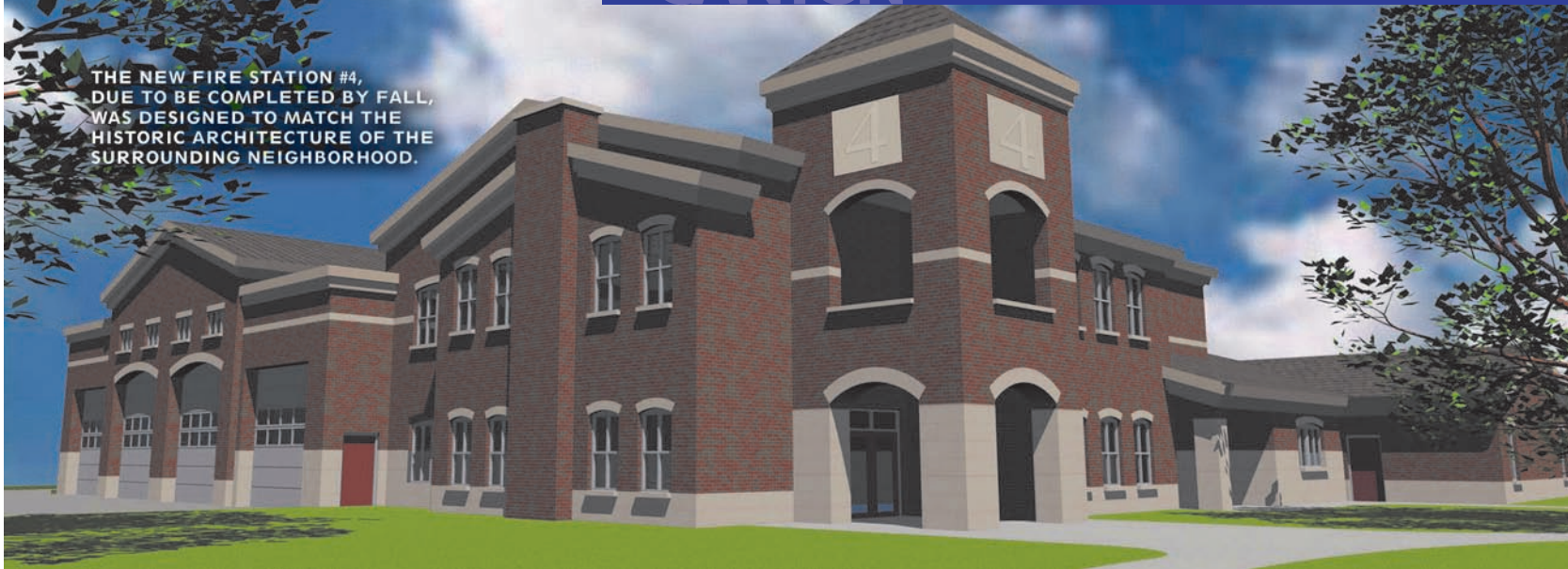
Moving away from community based policing does not mean that our neighborhoods don't play an important role in protecting our community. Residents who take pride in their neighborhood remain a vital part of crime prevention. Canton's neighborhood associations are one of the police department's greatest allies, and officers are always available to come to association meetings.

Under Intelligence Led Policing, community members and neighborhood associations play several key roles in helping the police. The most basic is by simply informing the police of potential trouble. No one is better equipped to recognize suspicious activity in any given area than the people who call it home, and simply letting us know when something seems amiss can go a long way in preventing crime.

Residents willing to go even farther can now participate in Project Crime Spotter. Anyone who feels there is criminal activity occurring on their street can request temporary placement of a surveillance camera on their property. There are currently seven cameras throughout the city, deterring would-be criminals, catching offenders and sending a message that law enforcement officials are paying attention to your neighborhood.

*Statistics Measured:
Homicide, rape,
robbery, assault,
burglary, larceny, &
motor vehicle theft.*

THE NEW FIRE STATION #4, DUE TO BE COMPLETED BY FALL, WAS DESIGNED TO MATCH THE HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE OF THE SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOOD.



RENDERING COURTESY OF MOTTER AND MEADOWS ARCHITECTS

Keeping our community safe goes far beyond just reducing crime. The Canton Fire Department plays a crucial role in protecting our residents from fire and providing emergency medical and rescue services.

Using state-of-the-art equipment and staffed by an outstanding group of highly trained, dedicated men and women, the fire department is finding smarter ways to do more with less. For example, the use of combo companies has allowed the department to offer faster, more flexible responses to calls while reducing man hours and overall operating costs.

The fire department further uses in-house personnel to aggressively pursue grants and other funding to bring resources to the city and our residents. These grants, now totaling more than \$8 million, have allowed us to update department equipment and provide life-saving devices to the community. Grants have paid for new turnout gear, hoses, nozzles, heart monitors and Jaws of Life. This new, high tech gear can make the difference between life and death in emergency situations and countless lives have been saved thanks to its use.

We have also used grant funding to purchase and distribute 324 fire extinguishers and well over 2,000 smoke detectors to Canton residents free of charge. The fire department recently received a \$3.4 million SAFER grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to pay for 28 firefighter/paramedics for two years.

The crown jewel of this new, effective and efficient department will be the new fire station currently being built on Cleveland Avenue. Despite the harsh winter weather, the new station #4 is still on track to be completed by early fall of this year.

Fire Station #4 will house an advanced life support engine company that serves multiple fire and EMS purposes, an aerial truck company that provides essential rescue services such as Jaws of Life, specially trained rescue personnel and equipment and a paramedic staffed ambulance.

The new station will also boast a state-of-the-art training facility that will allow for classroom instruction and hands-on exercises, all designed to ensure that our firefighters and paramedics have the best training possible.

Fire stations often serve as anchors for the surrounding neighborhoods, and this important community role played a large part in the placement and design of the new station. Every effort was made to ensure the new building matches the surrounding architecture and resources have been committed to upgrade the adjacent park.

Through a partnership with the Park Board and City Engineer, the basketball courts will be resurfaced, new backboards and poles will be installed, the baseball field will be upgraded and new playground equipment will be constructed. Improved lighting, better accessibility and new streetscaping will enhance the neighborhood even more.

Working to keep our county safe

Safety is not bound by city limits, and the Canton safety forces have long worked with other jurisdictions in the county. The city and county have now taken this collaboration a step further, creating a merged 800 MHz radio system that brings the area significantly closer to regionalized service.

Made possible through a \$3.4 million Public Safety Interoperability Communication grant from the federal government, this massive undertaking took almost two years to complete and has resulted in one of the best radio systems in the nation.

Several other jurisdictions have also joined the new system. The Louisville police and fire departments, the East Canton police department, the Stark County Sanitary Engineer's office, the Stark County Health Department and SARTA have joined Canton's safety and service departments on the network.

The 800 MHz system has the capacity to absorb all of Stark County's safety forces, and we look forward to working with other communities to ensure the best coverage possible for all our residents.

April 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 First Friday "SKETCH INTO SPRING" 6:00 p.m. Downtown Canton Arts District	2
3	4 CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30 p.m. Canton City Hall	5	6 Canton Symphony Orchestra presents "YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT" 9:30 a.m. Umstattd Hall	7 Canton Symphony Orchestra presents "KINDER CONCERT" 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Cultural Center for the Arts	8 Canton Symphony Orchestra presents "KINDER CONCERT" 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Cultural Center for the Arts Canton Symphony Orchestra presents Cameo Concert "THEN AND NOW" 8 p.m. Players Guild Theatre	9 Canton Symphony Orchestra presents Cameo Concert "THEN AND NOW" 3 p.m. Louisville Middle School
10 Canton Symphony Orchestra presents Cameo Concert "THEN AND NOW" 3 p.m. Lions Lincoln Theatre in Massillon	11 CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30 p.m. Canton City Hall	12	13	14	15 ArtsInStark presents "ARTISALIVE" 5 - 11 p.m. Cultural Center for the Arts Canton Players Guild presents "JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR" 8 p.m. Players Guild Theatre	16 ArtsInStark presents "ARTISALIVE" 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Cultural Center for the Arts Canton Players Guild presents "JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR" 8 p.m. Players Guild Theatre
17 Canton Players Guild presents "JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR" 2:30 p.m. Players Guild Theatre	18 CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30 p.m. Canton City Hall <i>Passover begins at sunset</i> <i>2010 City Income Tax Returns and Extension Requests Due</i> <i>1st Quarter 2011 Corporate Estimated Tax Due</i>	19	20 <i>Employer Withholding Tax for March 2011 Due</i>	21	22 Canton Players Guild presents "JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR" 8 p.m. Players Guild Theatre <i>Good Friday</i> <i>(city offices closed, city sanitation service will continue with normal service)</i> <i>Earth Day</i>	23 Canton Players Guild presents "JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR" 8 p.m. Players Guild Theatre
24 <i>Easter Sunday</i>	25 CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30 p.m. Canton City Hall	26	27	28	29 Canton Museum of Art Preview Party Event for the Canton National Art show 6 p.m. Canton Museum of Art Canton Players Guild presents "JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR" 8 p.m. Players Guild Theatre	30 Opening of Fairhope Nature Preserve 10 a.m., Fairhope Nature Preserve CMA presents "THE NATIONAL ART SHOW" 10 a.m., CMA CSO presents KeyBank Master-Works Series: "THE SPLENDOR OF ENGLAND" 8 p.m., Umstattd Hall CPG presents "JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR" 8 p.m., Players Guild Theatre <i>1st Quarter 2011 Personal Estimated Tax Due</i> <i>1st Quarter 2011 Employer Withholding Tax Due</i>

May 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Canton Museum of Art presents "THE NATIONAL ART SHOW" 10 a.m. Canton Museum of Art VOCI presents "CHILDREN'S SPRING CONCERT" 3 p.m., Trinity United Church of Christ Canton Players Guild presents "JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR" 2:30 p.m. Players Guild Theatre	2 NO CITY COUNCIL MEETING <i>Yom Hashoah Holocaust Remembrance Day</i>	3 <i>Primary Election Day</i>	4 	5 PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME ENSHRINEMENT FESTIVAL QUEEN PAGEANT 7 p.m. Canton Palace Theater <i>Cinco De Mayo</i>	6 First Friday "GONE TO THE DOGS" 6:00 p.m. Downtown Canton Arts District Canton Players Guild presents "JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR" 8 p.m. Players Guild Theatre	7 VOCI presents "SPRING RING" 7:30 p.m. Zion Lutheran Church Canton Players Guild presents "JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR" 8 p.m. Players Guild Theatre
8 Canton Players Guild presents "JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR" 2:30 p.m. Players Guild Theatre <i>Mother's Day</i>	9 CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30 p.m. Canton City Hall	10 	11 	12 	13 	14
15 <i>National Police Week begins</i>	16 CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30 p.m. Canton City Hall	17 	18 	19 	20 <i>Employer Withholding Tax for April 2011 Due</i>	21 Canton Museum of Art presents "A CELEBRATION OF WOMEN ARTISTS" Canton Museum of Art, runs through July 24 <i>Armed Forces Day</i>
22 	23 CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30 p.m. Canton City Hall	24 	25 	26 TASTE OF CANTON 11:30 a.m. – 9 p.m. Downtown Canton	27 	28
29 	30 NO CITY COUNCIL MEETING <i>Memorial Day (city offices closed, city sanitation service delayed one day)</i>	31 				

June 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3 First Friday "GET DOWN TONIGHT" 6:00 p.m. Downtown Canton Arts District	4 VOCI presents "ENCORE" 7:30 p.m. Oakwood Middle School
5 VOCI presents "ENCORE" 3:00 p.m. Oakwood Middle School	6 CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30 p.m. Canton City Hall	7	8 <i>Shavuot</i>	9	10 CANTON BLUES FEST Noon – 10:30 p.m. Downtown Canton	11 CANTON BLUES FEST Noon – 10:30 p.m. Downtown Canton
12	13	14 <i>Flag Day</i>	15 <i>2nd Quarter 2011 Corporate Estimated Tax Due</i>	16	17 Canton Players Guild presents "THE WIZARD OF OZ" 8 p.m. Players Guild Theatre	18 CANTON FARMERS' MARKET 8 – 11:30 a.m. Downtown Canton, Canton Players Guild presents "THE WIZARD OF OZ" 8 p.m. Players Guild Theatre
19 Canton Players Guild presents "THE WIZARD OF OZ" 2:30 p.m. Players Guild Theatre <i>Father's Day Juneteenth</i>	20 CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30 p.m. Canton City Hall <i>Employer Withholding Tax for May 2011 Due</i>	21 <i>Summer begins</i>	22	23	24 Canton Players Guild presents "THE WIZARD OF OZ" 8 p.m. Players Guild Theatre	25 CANTON FARMERS' MARKET 8 – 11:30 a.m. Downtown Canton, Canton Players Guild presents "THE WIZARD OF OZ" 8 p.m. Players Guild Theatre
26 Canton Players Guild presents "THE WIZARD OF OZ" 2:30 p.m. Players Guild Theatre	27	28	29 ZING IN THE CITY 5 p.m. Downtown Canton	30 		

city phone directory

contact your city council members



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Electrical Inspector 330-438-4707
HVAC Inspector 330-438-4705
Plumbing Inspector 330-438-4706

Building Maintenance 330-489-3275

Civic Center 330-489-3090

Civil Service 330-489-3360

Clerk of Courts 330-489-3203
Civil 330-489-3203
Criminal/Traffic 330-489-3207

Economic and Community Development 330-489-3258
Canton Community Improvement 330-438-4122

Canton City Council 330-489-3223

DMV 330-489-3012

EEO Officer 330-438-4133

Engineering 330-489-3381
Parking Division 330-489-3127
Traffic Engineering Division 330-489-3370
Traffic Signal & Lighting Division 330-489-3126
Traffic Sign & Pavement Marking Division 330-489-3067

Fair Housing Program 330-438-4133

Fire Non-Emergency 330-649-5900

Fire Administration 330-489-3411

Health Dept 330-489-3231
Air Pollution 330-489-3385
Environment 330-489-3327
Nursing 330-489-3322
Public Health Info 330-489-3327
Vital Statistics 330-489-3231
WIC 330-489-3326

Human Resources 330-438-4136

Income Tax 330-430-7900

Police Non-Emergency 330-649-5800
Community Interaction Unit 330-458-4807
Detective Bureau 330-489-3144
Dispatch 330-649-5800

Holding Facility 330-489-3197
ID Bureau 330-489-3170
Information Only 330-489-3100
Impound Lot 330-489-3186
Impound Fees 330-438-6169
Internal Affairs 330-489-3377
Juvenile Bureau 330-489-3144
Patrol Division 330-489-3100
Police Chief 330-489-3111
Record Bureau 330-489-3172
Tip Line 330-489-3117
Traffic Bureau 330-489-3162
Training Bureau 330-489-3180
Vice 330-649-5929

Information Technology 330-438-6101

Judges-Administration 330-438-4231
Judge Belden 330-438-4226
Judge Falvey 330-438-4205
Judge Kubilus 330-438-4203
Judge Poulos 330-438-4202

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Criminal 330-489-3395

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Finance Director 330-438-4308
Safety Director 330-438-4312
Service Director 330-438-4310

Park Department 330-489-3015

Parking Tickets 330-438-6169

Purchasing 330-489-3245

Recreation Dept. 330-456-4521

Sanitation 330-489-3020

Sewer Collections 330-489-3031

Street 330-489-3030

Treasurer Robert Schirack 330-489-3261

Water 330-489-3308
Water Engineer 330-489-3310
Leaks 330-489-3315
Utility Billing 330-649-8100

Water Reclamation Facility 330-489-3080

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